

My name is Coleen Brodin and I am the parent of a high school senior and an 8th grader in the public school system in Cheshire. I am asking you to vote NO on HB 7017 as it is currently written.

While I strongly agree with the fact that Connecticut needs to pass legislation to protect our children's privacy, the problem here is that Connecticut itself is the one who jeopardizes it, and not just the vendors you currently seek to legislate.

So I would like to see the verbiage of **HB 6012 AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT DATA COLLECTED BY THE P20 WIN COUNCIL**, incorporated into this bill. HB 6012 says:

*That title 10 of the general statutes be amended to require that all identifying information is removed from student data collected by the P20 WIN Council and to clarify what information is permitted to be collected from a student's educational records.*

Despite Interim Commissioner Dianna Wentzell's quote on FOX News on March 17th that "We protect our student data very carefully" the reality is that

- Current state law does not limit what personal information it can collect about our students
- Current state law does not legally bind the CT Department of Ed to protect the information
- The state has not made clear who is authorized to see that information
- The state has not made its data privacy and security policies public

And as it stands, HB 7017 does nothing to rectify any of it. The prohibitions and guidelines stated in HB 7017 are for online vendors only. We NEED to have legislation in place to guarantee the privacy of our students by the state that is relentlessly collecting it, and incorporating language from HB 6012 is the most effective way to do that.

And that brings me to SB 1100 which seeks to extend all of this data collection to preschoolers and college graduates! Obviously I do not support that either.

I ask each of you on the Education Committee to consider whether you are doing what is in the best interest of our children when you allow our state to collect vast amounts of personal information about our children, and don't take stringent measures to protect it.

The "privacy issue" in Connecticut goes way beyond what outside entities are collecting about our children. It is all moot if those entities can simply request the information from the state itself and the state has no laws saying it can't give it to them.